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# Reauthorization: Hearings and Reports (1990): Correspondence 03

Claiborne Pell

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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND  
HUMAN RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

May 22, 1990

Dr. William G. Bowen  
President  
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation  
140 East 62nd Street  
New York, NY 10021

Dear Bill:

Thanks so much for your recent letter and for your very thoughtful comments on the topic of graduate education in the humanities. Your letter as well as the interview from the PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY will be made part of the NEH reauthorization hearing record. You have provided an important balance to testimony received from the NEH Chairman.

While I appreciate your eloquent thoughts, as well as those of your colleague and my friend, Vartan Gregorian, I believe this is a matter that might better be considered in the context of the Higher Education Act reauthorization next year. At that time, we could take a careful look not only at expanding the Javits Graduate Fellowship Program but also the need to provide dissertation assistance for humanities graduates.

I fully appreciate your findings as to the future shortage of well-qualified faculty in the humanities and agree that this should be a national concern. I hope we can work together to address this critical situation in the context of the Higher Education Act.

With warm personal regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Education,  
Arts & Humanities